

A WEARABLE COMPUTER IN A PROCESS CONTROL ENVIRONMENT

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A wearable computer for use in a process control environment includes a
5 central processing unit, a memory and a number of peripheral devices such as a
heads up display, a microphone, a video camera and a remote communication
device that communicates with a host computer. The wearable computer provides
information pertaining to one or more devices within a process control system (such
10 as diagnostic information, help information, operator overviews, schematics or
process parameter information) via the heads up display. The wearable computer
also executes a routine that processes the video camera image to automatically
identify process control devices within the field of view of the wearer based on
device features such as device tags, a routine that enables a wearer to verify the
proper connection of devices and/or communication channels within a process
15 control system, a routine that displays a common image on both the heads up
display and an operator workstation display and a routine that stores and
automatically retrieves voice messages pertaining to any device within the process
control system.